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Letter dated 29 March 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In connection with the ongoing debate in the Security Council on the report of the Panel of Experts on violations of Security Council sanctions against UNITA (S/2000/203) of 10 March 2000, I have the honour, acting upon instructions, to present the following information and views of my Government on that report, as contained in the annex to this letter.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladimir **Sotirov**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-36941 (E) 300300

Annex

Views of the Government of Bulgaria on the report of the Panel of Experts

The Bulgarian Government welcomes the report of the Expert Panel concerning the alleged violations of Security Council measures imposed against the Angolan rebel group, UNITA. We recognize that the fulfilment of the Panel's mandate, as defined, will help the international community to ensure that the sanctions become an effective tool for reducing UNITA's capacity to wage war. At the same time, Bulgaria categorically rejects as absolutely groundless and unacceptable allegations contained in the report of possible violations by Bulgaria of Security Council sanctions against UNITA. It is our understanding that the report does not and could not contain even a single concrete piece of evidence linking Bulgaria as a State or as State policy with violations of Security Council resolutions or of internationally recognized standards and norms of arms control regimes.

The Republic of Bulgaria fully supports and abides by the Security Council resolutions on Angola and the imposed sanctions on UNITA. The Bulgarian Government has always been in favour of measures that can lead to a lasting settlement of the conflict in Angola. Bulgaria has a very good record on sanctions compliance even when such compliance has had a very adverse effect on the Bulgarian economy, as in the cases of Iraq and the former Yugoslavia.

Internally, Bulgaria has been applying most stringent control of its foreign arms trade in accordance with the Law on Foreign Trade Arms Transactions, adopted by Parliament in 1995. Each foreign transaction in arms or dual-use goods and technologies is considered and approved on an individual basis after a meticulous review of all documents. This legally binding procedure is strictly observed. Currently, an amendment to the legislation in force is on the high priority agenda of the Government and Parliament for the first half of this year. The amendment is intended to introduce an even stricter mechanism for control and implementation of imposed international restrictions in arms trade with regard to specific countries and regions.

We share the belief that effective international control over arms transactions and the export of arms is required and the Republic of Bulgaria has always played a substantive role in the efforts of the international community in this field. Since 1998 Bulgaria has adhered to the European Union's Code of Conduct on Arms Trade, as well as to all European Union declarations and decisions concerning sanctions and transactions in arms.

Bulgaria spares no effort to enhance international cooperation on this issue. On the initiative of the Bulgarian Government a Regional Conference on Export Controls was held in Sofia in December 1999 under the auspices of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe. The Conference adopted two important documents — a Joint Declaration on Responsible Arms Transfers and a Statement on the Harmonization of End-User Certificates. The 12 participating countries agreed on a number of concrete measures to combat illicit arms trafficking in the region, thus contributing to the fulfilment of the common goal of the international community in this field.

The Bulgarian Government has always shown its support and readiness to fully cooperate with and assist the sanctions Committee and the Panel of Experts established to investigate violations of sanctions against UNITA. Maximum assistance was provided to the work of the Expert Panel, chaired by Ambassador Möllander. During the Panel's visit to Bulgaria in January, meetings were organized at various Ministries as well as at the Interdepartmental Council at the Council of Ministers, which is the sole Bulgarian body authorized to issue licences for arms trading. Comprehensive and substantial written information was provided including answers to additional inquiries, which were submitted to the Panel on 11 February 2000.

While commendable as an overall initiative, the report contains, both in substance and methods used, the following serious flaws in the paragraphs relating to Bulgaria:

Bulgaria is named as a State which has provided UNITA with arms, despite the fact that in the report there is not a single credible fact supporting this allegation. In paragraph 15 of the report the experts themselves admit that "arms procurement by UNITA was not by means of direct contact between UNITA and arms producing countries".

The report fails to make the important distinction between a country or party which is directly responsible as a supplier of arms to UNITA, and countries which are merely the "source", i.e., where the arms had been produced.

Regrettably, the fact that Bulgaria was one of the few countries to fully cooperate with the experts and provide written replies has been used in some instances against us. Furthermore, we were surprised to observe how selectively the reported information was used in quotations so that "plausible" pieces be singled out to "fit" the Panel's presumed conclusions. For example, the assumption that permits had been granted for arms exports to Togo is used to give credibility to a groundless accusation that Bulgaria shows no respect "where those arms would actually end up" (para. 51). No mention is made of the fact that Togo is not subjected to any United Nations or European Union arms embargo and, above all, that the transactions were approved in accordance with enforced legal provisions and on the basis of genuine end-user certificates, provided by the Ministry of Defence of Togo.

The above-mentioned technique is again used to make the allegation that Bulgaria was somehow involved in the training of UNITA's military. Pointing out that in its written replies Bulgaria had informed that in 1996 it carried out training of 40 Zairian officers at the Military School in Shoumen, in accordance with a bilateral agreement officially signed between the two Ministries of Defence, at a time when no restrictions applied for military cooperations of this type, the report makes the strange conclusion that those might have been UNITA personnel disguised as Zairians. There is neither mention of any evidence corroborating this assumption, apart from speculation, nor of any investigation of this allegation through the former Zairian military authorities who had officially signed this agreement and were responsible for the selection of their personnel.

In view of those facts, we came to the sad observation that a State which extended its full support and assistance to a monitoring body is somehow placed in a disadvantageous position through the distortion and misinterpretation of the information it submitted, whatever the reasons for such handling of the facts are.

Such an approach is totally unacceptable and harmful to the effectiveness of the monitoring of the implementation of Security Council resolutions. It could only discourage the willingness and increase the cautiousness of the respective Governments with regard to the activities of the expert bodies. These bodies should pursue their mandates on the grounds of objectivity, impartiality and non-selectivity and should base their findings and recommendations on sound legal and factual evidence.

The report also includes a rather strange allegation in paragraph 38, where the correctness of the written reply of the Bulgarian authorities is put in doubt by the Panel, although it concedes that it was not "in a position independently to confirm" those doubts. The case concerns a concrete arms deal proposed by the United States company Milteks, which was cancelled by the Bulgarian authorities when false end-user certificates were discovered. The equipment concerned was never exported and can still be found and verified at the storage premises of the Ministry of Defence. The approach in this particular case raises serious doubts about the credibility of the sources of information used in at least some parts of the report and fully contradicts the evidentiary standards said to be applicable to all information collected by the Panel (see para. 11).

It is surprising and needs further explanation on the part of the authors of the report that the credibility of Bulgaria is questioned on points where it has denied any breach of imposed sanctions, while at the same time countries which have not provided on time or never submitted such information are found not involved or are ignored in the Panel's findings.

We are of the view that the "confessions" of defectors or captured UNITA fighters should not have been given credibility in the report, unless they were supported by other substantive evidence. In this regard, it seems the allegations implicating Bulgaria are based entirely on the confessions of defectors like General Bandua, an unnamed "director of the control tower of Andulo airport" and the interrogation of a captured UNITA officer who recollects that "boxes of ammunition and other material delivered to Andulo had Bulgarian markings".

Despite its clear-cut position on the matter, the Bulgarian Government has decided, as was stated in the note verbale of the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria of 22 March 2000 (S/2000/240), to thoroughly investigate all the accusations contained in the report. To this end on 15 March 2000 a Special Commission, chaired by the Bulgarian Minister for Justice, was established to study the charges and come up with specific conclusions.

In conclusion, having taken due note of the Belgian proposal (see S/2000/228 of 20 March 2000) that given the forthcoming debate in the Security Council the report be appropriately supplemented, the Bulgarian Government would like to request that the relevant paragraphs pertaining to Bulgaria be reviewed and amended on the grounds of the irrefutable facts and sound arguments thus presented. We are of the view that the report will only benefit from such an approach.

The Bulgarian Government reiterates its willingness to cooperate fully with the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies for the cause of reconciliation and lasting peace in Angola.

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Letter dated 29 March 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith the report of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the status of bilateral negotiations with the Republic of Croatia on the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka, submitted under paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution1285 (2000) of 13 January 2000 (annex I) and the letter dated 6 March 2000 from Rodoljub Etinski, Head of the Yugoslav delegation to the negotiations, to his Croatian counterpart (annex II).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-37116 (E) 310300

Annex I

Report of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the status of the negotiations with the Republic of Croatia on the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka

Pursuant to paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 1285 (2000) of 13 January 2000, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia submits herewith the report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the status of bilateral negotiations between the delegations of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia on the disputed issue of Prevlaka.

Since the last meeting, held on 9 March 1999, no other meeting has taken place in the past year between the delegations of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia within the negotiations on the said issue as Croatia failed to convene the 5th meeting, which it was supposed to do in accordance with the agreed negotiation procedures. The Yugoslav side expressed its readiness to resume the negotiations and engage in a substantive discussion of the argumentations the two sides had exchanged after four rounds of negotiations on a number of occasions: in the letters of the head of the Yugoslav delegation, Rodoljub Etinski, addressed to the head of the Croatian delegation, Hrvoje Kacic, in July 1999 and on 6 March 2000; in the reports of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia submitted to the Secretary-General in October and December 1999; and in the contacts of Yugoslav representatives with the representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

In his letter to Mr. Kacic on 6 March 2000, Mr. Etinski expressed the readiness of the Yugoslav side to resume negotiations at the 5th meeting to take place in Zagreb, Croatia. He also proposed to include in its agenda the presentation of the Yugoslav positions on the arguments on which the Croatian side bases its perception of the extension of the State border in the area of Prevlaka and the presentation of the Croatian positions on the arguments on which the Yugoslav side bases its perception of the extension of the said border.

In the letters addressed by its Permanent Representative to the United Nations to the Security Council (S/1999/719, S/1999/783 and Corr.1 and S/1999/1049), the Republic of Croatia accuses, unjustly, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia of an impasse in the negotiations. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is of the opinion that it is possible to hold serious negotiations only through direct dialogue by way of presenting arguments of the two parties in meetings of delegations rather than by letters. It therefore expects the Republic of Croatia to take the attitude towards the disputed issue of Prevlaka it committed itself to by the Agreement on Normalization of Relations between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia of 23 August 1996.

In Security Council resolution 1285 (2000) of 13 January 2000 and in the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka of 31 December 1999 (S/1999/1302), special emphasis is placed on "confidence-building measures". These measures are not acceptable to the Yugoslav side in the Blue Zone. They would amount to the revision of the concept of the Blue Zone established in 1992 according to which the authorities and citizens of the two sides are not allowed into the Zone. The "confidence-building measures" in the Blue Zone would imply movement of civilians in the Zone and the legalization of the

border crossing at Kobila. The measures would in fact legalize the presence of the citizens and authorities of the Republic of Croatia in the Zone and exonerate the Republic of Croatia from the continued violation of the regime of the Blue Zone.

In his report of 31 December 1999, the Secretary-General urges the parties to introduce "a limited access regime for local civilians with legitimate business in the United Nations-controlled zone". There have been no civilian businesses or private farmland that require cultivation in Prevlaka since the second half of the nineteenth century and military facilities alone have been located there. Croatian fishermen did not fish in the waters of Boka Kotorska Bay prior to the accession to independence by the Republic of Croatia, as it was prohibited by the laws of the Socialist Republic of Montenegro. Accordingly, there are no civilians who for "legitimate business" should be allowed into the Blue Zone pending a solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka through bilateral negotiations.

The "confidence-building measures" run counter to the principle of peaceful solution of disputes, according to which parties in dispute should refrain from actions and measures conducive to the deterioration of the dispute or prejudging the dispute. In article 4 of the Agreement on Normalization of Relations between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia, the two sides committed themselves to respecting "the existing regime established through United Nations monitoring" pending an agreement on Prevlaka, so that any unilateral request to change the provision constitutes a violation of that provision.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia reiterates its readiness to continue bilateral negotiations on the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka in accordance with article 4 of the aforementioned Agreement and the rules of international law in the spirit of good-neighbourliness.

Annex II

Letter dated 6 March 2000 from the head of the delegation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the head of the delegation of the Republic of Croatia

Further to the letter that we exchanged in July 1999 regarding the convening of a meeting of the delegations, we are informing you that the delegation of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for negotiations with the delegation of the Republic of Croatia on the establishment of the extension of the State border between the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Croatia in Sector South and the solution of the disputed issue of Prevlaka is ready to continue negotiations at the 5th meeting which, according to the agreed rules of negotiations, should be held in Zagreb at a time to be determined jointly.

I propose that, at the meeting, we continue negotiations according to an agenda to be mutually agreed and which can include the presentation of our positions on the arguments on which you base your perception of the extension of the State border, ergo, including also the question of the map of 1992, with the signatures of Milan Panic, the then President of the Federal Government, and of General Zivota Panic, the then Head of the General Staff of the Army of Yugoslavia, as well as the question of the authenticity of those signatures and including also the presentation of your positions on the arguments on which the Yugoslav side bases its perception on the extension of the State border in the area of Prevlaka.

(*Signed*) Rodoljub **Etinski**
Ambassador
Head of delegation

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Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission

(24 September 1999-30 March 2000)

I. Introduction

1. The present report provides an account of developments and activities in respect of the mandate entrusted to the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM), in accordance with Security Council resolutions 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, 689 (1991) of 14 June 1991 and 806 (1993) of 5 February 1993. It covers the period from 24 September 1999 to 30 March 2000.

II. Developments in the demilitarized zone

2. The situation in the demilitarized zone remained generally calm throughout the period under review, and UNIKOM carried out its operations smoothly and without interruption.

3. There were 77 violations in the demilitarized zone: 1 maritime, 8 ground, 20 weapon and 48 air violations. Most of the ground violations occurred when Iraqi vehicles using the only hard-surface road along the border crossed in and out of Kuwaiti territory. On 19 October 1999, a UNIKOM patrol confronted a group of seven Kuwaiti civilians who had earlier been standing on the Iraqi side of the demilitarized zone. The group withdrew as soon as the patrol informed them that they had entered Iraqi territory.

4. Most of the weapons violations reported consisted of incidents of single gunshots fired during the night. Two illustrative instances follow:

(a) On 22 November 1999 Bangladeshi battalion guards posted at patrol and observation base N-3 reported that some unknown person or persons had fired two rounds of tracers within 2 to 3 metres of a Bangladeshi battalion soldier as he was climbing the tower there. After UNIKOM had deployed the quick reaction force, the senior Iraqi liaison officer informed UNIKOM that local farmers hunting wild animals had probably fired the shots. Later, however, UNIKOM was informed that a number of break-ins had occurred in the area around the time of the shooting. Therefore, it was possible that shots aimed at suspected burglars had strayed accidentally to the area of the patrol and observation base;

(b) On 8 January 2000, a UNIKOM patrol on the Iraqi side of the demilitarized zone observed an exchange of semi-automatic gunfire between two trucks. The trucks were carrying a total of nine men when a UNIKOM patrol observed them near patrol and observation base N-4. The occupants abandoned one of the vehicles and fled the area, leaving no evidence of injuries.

5. UNIKOM was able to identify only one of the aircraft involved in the numerous air violations. It involved an F-15 flying over southern sector headquarters on 18 October. All the other air violations involved aircraft flying too high to be identified.

6. The single maritime violation reported involved four Iraqi boats observed in Kuwaiti territorial waters in the Khawr 'Abd Allah waterway on 30 December.

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7. Five complaints were received by UNIKOM during the reporting period, four from Kuwait and one from Iraq. The four from Kuwait were as follows:

(a) On 31 December, the senior Kuwaiti liaison officer complained that two Iraqi boats were anchored in Kuwaiti waters, south of patrol and observation base N-2. UNIKOM launched a patrol in the area, but was unable to substantiate the allegation;

(b) On 13 January the senior Kuwaiti liaison officer complained that the two border pillar signs were missing. A UNIKOM patrol verified this, but could not determine the circumstances of the disappearance;

(c) On 15 February the senior Kuwaiti liaison officer complained that five men in uniform had alighted from an Iraqi truck that had stopped close to the border, scaled the trench and climbed the berm. UNIKOM sent an investigative team to the location and found traces of tyre tracks and footprints, but could not determine what had occurred;

(d) On 1 March the senior Kuwaiti liaison officer complained that within the preceding 24 hours Iraqi personnel had crossed into Kuwait and tried to climb over the fence, which has not yet been electrified. Kuwaiti border police had found footprints in the sand pointing from the international border towards the fence and marks from attempts to scale the fence. Following an investigation, UNIKOM concluded that the alleged attempt to cross had taken place, but could not determine who was involved.

The senior Iraqi liaison officer lodged the fifth complaint, alleging that on 1 March a military aircraft was heard, but not seen, entering Iraqi airspace from Kuwait at a point near Umm Qasr.

8. UNIKOM visited a total of 51 ships calling at Umm Qasr harbour under the oil-for-food programme. Their cargo consisted mainly of wheat, rice, vegetable oil, baby food and various kinds of spare parts.

9. The electric fence that has been under construction in Kuwait for some time has now been completed. The Kuwaiti authorities have commenced implementation of a policy of relocating the Kuwaiti police posts in the demilitarized zone to locations adjacent to gates in the fence, causing much building activity. A general expansion in oil installations on the Kuwaiti side of the demilitarized zone has taken place, and activities are currently at an all-time high. Oil production on the Iraqi side has also been expanding.

10. On 13 January UNIKOM closed down patrol and observation base N-10 and transferred the bulk of its assets and resources to the newly inaugurated maritime operations. UNIKOM took this action following a decision by Kuwait to close the berm/trench in the southern part of the demilitarized zone. The Kuwaiti action was intended to improve security in the 'Abd Ali area and to facilitate development of civilian activities in the easternmost part of the demilitarized zone.

11. Following a lengthy period of preparation, the Khwar 'Abd Allah Waterway Monitoring Project commenced operation on 15 February. This new maritime operation is directly under the command of the Force Commander. Its area of responsibility covers the waterways (mainly the Khawr 'Abd Allah) and the land area patrolled by UNIKOM from patrol and observation base N-2 on the Al Faw peninsula. A total of 8 Bangladeshi naval personnel and 18 military observers have been assigned to the maritime operation. It has operational and logistical responsibility for three patrol and observation bases, including a new one on Warbah Island (M-1), the presently existing N-1, which has been renamed M-2, and the patrol and observation base on the Al Faw peninsula (N-2), which will be permanently staffed by military observers as soon as a pier is built nearby and will be renamed patrol and observation base M-3.

12. The humanitarian activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) have continued and include mail exchanges across the border. On 22 March ICRC organized and UNIKOM supervised the repatriation to her parents of an Iraqi girl who had been living with relatives in Kuwait. A scheduled ICRC meeting at Camp Khor, pursuant to paragraph 13 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999) of 17 December 1999 concerning the repatriation of Kuwaiti and third-country nationals following the Gulf crisis, was cancelled at the request of ICRC.

13. UNIKOM continued to maintain close and regular liaison with the authorities of both Iraq and Kuwait at various levels, including visits by the Force Commander to government officials in Baghdad and Kuwait City and through UNIKOM liaison offices in the two capitals. Both the Kuwaiti and Iraqi Governments have cooperated with UNIKOM in the conduct of its operations.

III. Organizational matters

14. As at 23 March, the overall strength of UNIKOM was 1,304, as follows:

(a) 197 military observers from Argentina (4), Austria (7), Bangladesh (5), Canada (6), China (11), Denmark (6), Fiji (7), Finland (5), France (11), Ghana (5), Greece (6), Hungary (5), India (7), Indonesia (4), Ireland (5), Italy (5), Kenya (4), Malaysia (5), Nigeria (5), Pakistan (7), Poland (5), Romania (3), Russian Federation (11), Senegal (5), Singapore (5), Sweden (5), Thailand (6), Turkey (6), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (11), United States of America (11), Uruguay (7) and Venezuela (2);

(b) An infantry battalion of 775 from Bangladesh;

(c) An engineering unit of 50 from Argentina;

(d) A logistics unit of 34 from Argentina;

(e) A helicopter unit of 35 from Bangladesh;

(f) A medical unit of 14 from Germany;

(g) 199 civilian staff, of whom 51 were recruited internationally and the remainder were recruited locally.

On 1 December Major General John A. Vize (Ireland) succeeded Major General Esa Tarvainen (Finland) as Force Commander.

IV. Financial aspects

15. As indicated in my previous report (S/1999/1006 and Corr.1), the General Assembly, in its resolution 53/229 of 8 June 1999, appropriated the amount of $53,991,024 gross for the maintenance of UNIKOM for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000, subject to the review by the Security Council with regard to the question of termination or continuation of the Mission. Two thirds of the cost of the Mission, equivalent to $34.7 million, is to be funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Kuwait. Assessments on Member States have been made for the period ending 30 April 2000. The Government of Kuwait has paid voluntary contributions totalling $23.4 million for the period ending 30 April 2000.

16. As at 24 March, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for UNIKOM for the period from inception to 30 April 2000 amounted to $10.9 million. The unpaid assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations amounted to $1.9 billion.

V. Observations

17. During the period under review, the situation along the border between Iraq and Kuwait remained generally quiet. UNIKOM continued to carry out its tasks smoothly, thereby contributing to the maintenance of calm and stability along the border. In those tasks it continued to receive the cooperation of the Iraqi and Kuwaiti authorities. I recommend that the Mission be maintained.

18. In conclusion, I wish to pay tribute to the former Force Commander, Major General Tarvainen, to Major General Vize, his successor, and to the men and women under their command for the manner in which they have discharged their responsibilities. Their discipline and bearing have been of a high order, reflecting credit on themselves, on their countries and on the United Nations.

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Letter dated 29 March 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have been instructed by my Government to bring to your attention the most conspicuous instances of terrorism of the so-called Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) against the Serbs and other residents of Orahovac and the surrounding villages, Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia, since the arrival of the Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the establishment of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK).

1. Svetislav Grkovic, Dragan Simovic, Nikola Bigovic, Mihailo Velimirovic, Budimir Bulic, Dobrivoje Savelic, Nebojsa Pavlovic, Mladjan Manitasevic and Zoran Vukicevic were killed.

2. Marko Vitosevic, Petko Pelevic, Boban Dedic, Sinisa Vitosevic, Gradimir Majmerovic, Ljubisa Grkovic, Milica Jevtic, Sinisa Kazic, Jusuf Hamza, Shkelzin Hamza, Adrian Isaku and Idriz Berisha were abducted.

3. Petko Simic, Novica Kazic, Spasa Nikolic, Jovan Bigovic, Marica Strbac, Mladen Cerovic, Azem Isaku, Ismet Hamza, Xhavit Berisha, Predrag and Vojislav Dedic, Cvetko Soric and Jovan Jeftic were abducted and released after being harassed.

4. Thirty other Serbs were abducted in a KLA attack on 17 and 18 July 1998 and their fate remains unknown.

5. One hundred and ninety Serbian houses were burned down.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanović**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-37153 (E) 310300

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30 March 2000

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Letter dated 28 March 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the English translation of a note verbale dated 13 March 2000 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Hadi **Nejad-Hosseinian**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-37203 (E) 030400

Annex

Note verbale dated 13 March 2000 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran and has the honour to state the following:

According to the reports received from the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the acts of hostility, as described hereunder, were carried out by the terrorist elements of the Mujahidin-e Khalq Organization (MKO), currently authorized by the Iraqi Government to station on Iraqi soil with a view to embarking on acts of sabotage against the Islamic Republic of Iran:

1. On 6 February 2000, seven terrorist elements belonging to the MKO, possessing two heads of camel, infiltrated the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Ilam General area and fired 16 82-mm mortar rounds in an attack in the direction of one of the Iranian border posts. On their way back to Iraqi territory, they planted one TV mine on the Chalat sand road, which injured three Iranian conscripts.

2. On 6 February 2000, at 0220 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO fired 35 mortar shells across the border from Iraqi soil, targeting the Khanlili area inside the Islamic Republic of Iran.

3. On 6 February 2000, at 0220 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, infiltrating the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Sumar area, fired 63 82-mm mortar rounds in an attack in the direction of the Sumar district. While returning to Iraqi territory, the terrorist group left behind two 82-mm mortar launchers, one mortar tripod, two heads of horses and a number of spades.

4. On 6 February 2000, at 0230 hours, a number of terrorist elements belonging to the MKO, infiltrating the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, fired 20 120-mm mortar rounds in an attack on the Ghasr-e Shirin-Khosravi access, injuring one Iranian conscript.

5. On 10 February 2000, at 1800 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO fired two mortar shells and at 1850 hours one mortar shell in the direction of the Bahram-Abad sentry post in the Mehran area.

6. On 11 February 2000, at 0230 hours, the terrorist elements belonging to the MKO fired 10 mortar rounds in an attack across the border from Iraqi soil onto the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the Mosian area.

7. On 12 February 2000, at 0100 hours, the terrorist elements belonging to the MKO, intent on infiltrating the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the Baiat area, retreated to Iraqi territory after having been intercepted by the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

8. On 12 February 2000, at 0100 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, intent on infiltrating the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the Dehloran area, retreated to Iraqi territory after having been intercepted by the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

9. On 12 February 2000, at 0140 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, infiltrated the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran and fired 10 mortar rounds in an attack in an area near the city of Mosian.

10. On 12 February 2000, at 0150 hours, the terrorist elements belonging to the MKO fired 14 82-mm mortar rounds in an attack across the border from inside Iraq onto territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the Mosian area.

11. On 13 February 2000, at 1000 hours, the terrorist elements belonging to the MKO began shooting from inside Iraqi territory, in the direction of one of the Iranian sentry posts in the Dehloran area.

12. On 15 February 2000, at 1930 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, intending to infiltrate the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Jofeir area, retreated to Iraqi territory, after having been intercepted by the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

13. On 17 February 2000, at 2300 hours, one terrorist group composed of three elements belonging to the MKO, intending to infiltrate the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at the Sableh access point, retreated to Iraqi territory after having been intercepted by the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

14. On 18 February 2000, at 2345 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO who had infiltrated the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in south-east Mosian, clashed with the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran and subsequently returned to Iraqi territory. As a result of the clash, one Iranian conscript was martyred.

15. On 18 February 2000, at 2300 hours, one group composed of 15 terrorist elements belonging to the MKO, intending to infiltrate the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the northern Meimak access point, retreated to Iraqi territory after having been intercepted 200 metres inside Iranian territory by the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

16. On 18 February 2000, at 2400 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, intending to infiltrate the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the area of the Anbar river post, retreated to Iraqi territory after having been intercepted by the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

17. On 19 February 2000, the terrorist elements belonging to the MKO fired 7 107-mm mortar rounds in an attack across the border from Iraqi soil in the direction of the general area of Ghasr-e Shirin.

18. On 19 February 2000, at 0200 hours, the terrorist elements belonging to the MKO, fired three rounds of 120-mm mortar in attacks across the border from Iraqi soil onto territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the general area of Dehloran.

19. On 19 February 2000, at 0015 and 0100 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, having infiltrated the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the general area of Ilam, clashed with the Iranian border guards. Subsequently, they retreated to Iraqi territory, leaving behind one head of donkey, one head of horse, one 120-mm Korean-made mortar launcher, 10 mortar shells, six empty bags, one spade, one empty backpack, two metal silique and one water-purifying powder pack.

20. On 19 February 2000, at 0100 hours, 10 mortar rounds were fired in an attack across the border from Iraqi soil onto the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the Ilam area.

21. On 19 February 2000, at 0115 hours, eight 107-mm mortar rounds were fired in an attack across the border from Iraqi soil onto the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the area of Ghasr-e Shirin.

22. On 19 February 2000, at 1200 hours, the terrorist elements belonging to the MKO fired 12 107-mm mortar rounds in an attack from the Aghdagh heights in the direction of the city of Ghasr-e Shirin.

23. On 19 February 2000, at 0126 hours, the terrorist elements belonging to the MKO, infiltrating the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, fired eight mortar rounds in an attack in the general area of Bahramabad.

24. On 21 February 2000, at 2200 to 2300 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, intending to infiltrate the territory if the Islamic Republic of Iran from the general area of Talaeea, retreated to Iraqi territory after having been intercepted by the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

25. On 21 February 2000, from 2200 to 2300 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, intending to infiltrate the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran from between the Talaeea and Zavia-Kooshk areas, retreated to Iraqi territory after having been intercepted by the border guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

26. On 21 February 2000, from 2300 to 2400 hours, one terrorist group belonging to the MKO, intending to infiltrate the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran from the general area of Fakka, retreated to Iraqi territory after having been intercepted by the Iranian border guards.

27. On 23 February 2000, at 1410 hours, five 82-mm mortar rounds were fired in an attack across the border from Iraqi soil, into territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in the area of Abziadi.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, strongly protesting against the above-mentioned acts of hostility, holds the Government of the Republic of Iraq responsible for the adverse consequences of such acts resulting from the provision of sanctuary to the terrorists of the MKO on Iraqi soil and the creation of favourable conditions for them to organize armed acts of terrorism and sabotage against the Islamic Republic of Iran, contravening international norms and principles as well as the Charter of the United Nations. The Islamic Republic of Iran, while respecting Iraq's territorial integrity and the principles of good-neighbourly relations, considers the continuation of such acts of hostility to be intolerable and reserves its right to legitimate self-defence as well as removal of any threats.

United Nations S/2000/272

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 March 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 30 March 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have been instructed by my Government to lodge a protest over the violence committed by the members of the Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) against the residents of the village of Lepine in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia. Setting dogs on, and beating, unarmed Serbian civilians whom the international presences are supposed to protect and for whom they are supposed to ensure a normal life is very discrediting indeed. Bitten and beaten, the unarmed Serbs are telling evidence of the reprehensible attitude KFOR and UNMIK have taken towards the Serbian community in its own land that cannot be justified on any ground whatsoever. Moreover, such an attitude is highly detrimental to the re-establishment of confidence among the Serbs in the international community; therefore it is necessary to conduct a thorough investigation and punish those responsible.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Vladislav **Jovanovic**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

00-37278 (E) 310300

United Nations S/2000/273

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 March 2000
English
Original: French

Letter dated 31 March 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I regret to inform you that troops from the Rwandan and Ugandan regular armies are currently reinforcing their positions around the town of Kisangani.

My Government is greatly concerned by these deployments, which may provoke a second clash between the armies of these aggressor countries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Security Council will recall the clashes in this same martyred town in August 1999, which resulted in the deaths of hundreds of Congolese civilians.

My Government, which deplores this situation, once again requests the Security Council, as the principal United Nations body for the maintenance of international peace and security, to assume fully its responsibilities and call for the immediate withdrawal of these troops from Congolese national territory.

My Government also requests the Security Council to take note of and strongly condemn these military manoeuvres and these further flagrant violations by the two countries of the Lusaka Agreement and the relevant provisions of Security Council resolution 1291 (2000).

My Government would be grateful if the Security Council went beyond simply taking note of the offensives being conducted by these countries in Congolese territory and strongly condemned the aggression to which the Democratic Republic of the Congo has been subjected since 2 August 1998 by the armed coalition of Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo asks the Security Council to work tirelessly and to spare no effort so that this horrible situation of war, which is exacerbating the misery of the Congolese people, can be brought to an end as soon as possible.

00-37398 (E) 310300 310300

My Government would be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Andrei **Mwamba Kapanga**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2000/274

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 March 2000

Original: English

Note by the President of the Security Council

1. The members of the Security Council refer to the difficulties and disruption caused by the collection of copies of statements from outside the Council Chamber and wish to state that they have agreed to the following arrangements for the distribution of statements:

(a) Texts of statements made in the meetings of the Security Council will, at the request of the delegation making the statement, be distributed by the Secretariat inside the Council Chamber to Council members and other Member States and permanent observers to the United Nations present at the meeting;

(b) Any delegation requesting the distribution of its statement shall provide at least 200 copies to the Secretariat sufficiently in advance of the statement being made. Where a delegation provides to the Secretariat fewer than 200 copies of its statement, those copies will be placed outside the Council Chamber at the end of the meeting. Delegations are requested not to make statements otherwise available during the meeting.

2. The above arrangement is exhaustive and replaces the practice provided for under the note by the President of the Security Council dated 23 March 1994 (S/1994/329).

3. The members of the Council will continue their consideration of other suggestions concerning the Council's documentation and related matters.

00-37392 (E) 310300

United Nations S/2000/275

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 March 2000
English
Original: French

Letter dated 28 March 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union concerning the assassination of the Burundian Member of Parliament, Gabriel Gisabwamana, issued on 24 March 2000 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Antonio **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal
to the United Nations

00-37415 (E) 030400 030400

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union concerning the assassination of the Burundian Member of Parliament, Gabriel Gisabwamana, issued on 24 March 2000

The European Union (EU), having received fuller information on the circumstances of the death on the night of 20-21 November 1999 of Gabriel Gisabwamana, member of the National Transition Assembly, wishes to voice its concern.

Quite apart from the emotion aroused by the death of a human being, the EU considers that the perpetration of such violence against a representative of the Burundian nation and a member of an institution engaged in inter-Burundian talks is particularly serious.

The EU would repeat that the spread of any form of violence, whoever the perpetrators, can only hold back the peace process and delay the successful outcome of the current talks.

The EU is glad that the alleged perpetrator of this act of violence has been handed over to the judicial authorities and it wants to see that person judged in accordance with the law.

The EU urges the highest authorities of the State to do everything possible to prevent the recurrence of such acts of violence.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

United Nations A/54/821–S/2000/276

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
31 March 2000
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Fifty-fourth session
Agenda items 43 and 114

The situation in the Middle East

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Security Council
Fifty-fifth year

Letter dated 31 March 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of March 2000 and on behalf of the members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to convey to you hereby the comments of the Arab Group on the substance of the letter dated 16 March 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/54/799-S/2000/220).

The letter of the Permanent Representative of Israel makes tendentious statements concerning the Arab States, their leaders and their information media and does so with the aim of inverting the true state of affairs, attempting to mislead world public opinion and distorting the image of the Arab States and the history of the just and honourable struggle of their peoples with a view to undermining their solidarity and their legitimate rights. Those statements also seek to cloak Israel's constant acts of aggression and its unlawful practices as illustrated by the fact that occupation and aggression, the building of settlements, the expropriation of land, the attempted Judaization of Jerusalem and repressive practices against Arab citizens in the occupied Palestinian territory and the other occupied Arab territories are all still continuing.

The Israeli representative deliberately overlooks the fact that the major and fundamental reason for the condemnation of Israel and its abuses that has recently been voiced at the inter-Arab and international levels is the shelling and bombing of innocent civilians in Lebanon by Israel and the consequent killing of children and women and destruction of Lebanese infrastructure. In his letter, the Israeli representative also fails to mention the statement made by his Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Knesset and to correspondents for the world's news agencies that his Government was prepared to "burn the soil of Lebanon" and to kill its children. Such statements coming from an official Israeli personage, quite apart from the accompanying propaganda campaign waged by the Israeli media, constitute indeed

00-37438 (E) 030400 030400

the most heinous form of racism, malice and hatred and inflame the sentiments of the Arab peoples.

Israel bears responsibility for the consequences of the historic injustice done to the more than four million Palestinians who remain, as at this moment, banished from their homeland. There are also violations that have gone beyond all bounds, such as the massacres of Palestinians in Dayr Yasin (Deir Yassin) and Kafr Qasim (Kafr Kassem) and in other villages that have been totally destroyed, as well as the displacement of the more than half a million Syrian Arabs who await the day they can return to their land in the occupied Syrian Golan. In southern Lebanon, perpetrating massacres became an everyday policy for successive Israeli governments. This included attacks on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and the repeated shelling of the Lebanese civilians who took refuge in the UNIFIL compound in Qana, which took the lives of more than 100 such civilians — children, elderly persons and women. What is most disturbing in reading the letter of the Israeli representative is that he wants his Government to continue to commit all manner of aggression and murder and to prevent the victims from even protesting and from demanding a halt to the killing and respect for the international rule of law. It is this, in fact, that has been conveyed by the demonstrations held by Arab citizens in recent times.

Throughout their long history, the Arabs have never been other than advocates of peace and brotherhood among peoples. The divinely inspired messages that have gone forth from their land to the other parts of the world contained all the ideals of love, solidarity and the highest human values. Events have demonstrated that what is preventing the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is the fact that Israel in continuing deliberately to violate the Charter of the United Nations, the norms of public international law, international humanitarian law and the relevant United Nations resolutions. Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) call upon Israel to withdraw from the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and from the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967, and resolution 425 (1978) requires Israeli forces to withdraw forthwith and unconditionally from Lebanese territory. A just and comprehensive peace can never be compatible with the logic of Israel maintaining its occupation of and aggression against Arab territories and its failure to comply with the principle of land for peace.

I urge you, on behalf of the permanent representatives of the States members of the League of Arab States, to see to it that the United Nations meets its historical, political and legal responsibilities with respect to the implementation of its resolutions and that all possible forms of pressure be brought to bear on the Government of Israel to halt its inhuman and unlawful practices in the occupied Arab territories and comply with the provisions of the Charter, the international rule of law and the resolutions of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 43 and 114, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad J. **Samhan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Chairman of the Arab Group

United Nations S/2000/277

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 March 2000

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the alternate representatives of Canada on the Security Council

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received a letter dated 29 March 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations stating that Ms. Barbara Gibson and Ms. Tamara Mawhinney have been appointed alternate representatives of Canada on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, this communication constitutes adequate provisional credentials.

00-37422 (E) 310300

United Nations S/2000/278

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 April 2000
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 2 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 1 April 2000 from Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. The Minister calls your attention to an act of provocation committed by a Saudi patrol on 25 March 2000 when it fired a number of rounds at an Iraqi border observation post, and he requests the United Nations Secretariat to intervene with the Saudi authorities in order to prevent any recurrence of such acts.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Saeed H. **Hasan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-37639 (E) 040400 040400

Annex

Letter dated 1 April 2000 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to inform you that at 1855 hours on 25 March 2000 a Saudi patrol consisting of three vehicles fired 10 rounds from inside Saudi territory at the observer company's observation post 54 near the Amghar guardhouse.

In bringing to your attention this unwarranted act of provocation committed by a Saudi patrol in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, the norms of international law and the principles of good-neighbourliness, the Government of the Republic of Iraq trusts that the United Nations Secretariat will intervene with the Saudi authorities with a view to preventing any recurrence of such acts of provocation.

(*Signed*) Mohammed Said **Al-Sahaf**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq

United Nations S/2000/279

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 April 2000
English
Original: French

Letter dated 31 March 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on 29 March 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union, on behalf of the European Union, concerning the presidential election that took place in Senegal on 19 March 2000 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) António **Monteiro**
Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations

00-37647 (E) 040400 040400

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement issued on 29 March 2000 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union on the presidential elections in Senegal held on 19 March 2000

The European Union commends the free, fair and transparent way the Senegalese presidential elections were held, confirming in full the vitality of the pluralistic democracy in Senegal.

The European Union congratulates the Senegalese people on the peaceful and orderly manner in which they participated in the elections and encourages them to continue to display the same spirit of dialogue, understanding and tolerance in the new phase of the political life of their country.

The European Union also congratulates the Senegalese authorities for their dedication to the strengthening of democracy and political pluralism in Senegal and continues to be ready to assist them in their efforts to further enhance the development and well-being of the country, for the benefit of all the Senegalese people.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this statement.

United Nations S/2000/280

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 3 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of April 2000, and in the name of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit herewith resolution No. 5961 dated 28 March 2000, entitled "Foreign conspiratorial schemes against the Sudan", adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its resumed one hundred and thirteenth regular session, held on 28 March 2000 at Cairo (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the present letter and the annexed resolution and have them circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jassim Mohammed **Buallay**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the State of Bahrain
to the United Nations
Chairman of the Arab Group

00-37685 (E) 040400 040400

Annex

[Original: Arabic]

Foreign conspiratorial schemes against the Sudan

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having perused

The memorandum of the General Secretariat,

The memorandum of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the League of Arab States No. BDJ, one hundred and thirteenth session, of 23 February 2000,

The statement of the General Secretariat in support of the good offices of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Social People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to verify the national reconciliation in the Sudan within the framework of their joint initiatives,

And the recommendation of the Political Committee,

Having heard the statement of the delegation of the Sudan concerning the dimensions of foreign intervention in the internal affairs of the Sudan and the developments in the foreign scheme to disturb stability in the Sudan and threaten its security, safety and territorial integrity,

Recalling resolution 189 adopted by the Arab Summit Conference at its extraordinary session at Baghdad (28-30 May 1990),

Recalling its resolutions 5374 of 27 March 1994, 5746 of 25 March 1998, 5781 of 24 August 1998 (extraordinary session), 5794 of 17 September 1998, 5849 of 18 March 1999 and 5896 of 13 September 1999,

Expressing appreciation for the efforts of IGAD and IGAD's partners in promoting the peace process in the Sudan,

Expressing concern at the United States of America's imposition of unilateral economic sanctions that impede development efforts, particularly oil investment, and have a negative impact on efforts to achieve peace and stability in the Sudan,

Noting with concern the efforts of some to bring the question of the Sudan before the Security Council, bypassing regional efforts to establish peace in the Sudan,

Paying tribute to the efforts of the Arab Group at the United Nations to block Canada's move to bring the question of the Sudan before the Security Council,

Decides

1. To reaffirm its support for the Sudan in confronting threats to its sovereignty, stability and territorial integrity, rejecting any efforts to expose it to partition, and its support for its efforts in regional and international organizations;

2. To warn of the danger of foreign intervention in the affairs of a State member of the League of Arab States for security and stability in the region; to

condemn any decisions aimed at supporting any separatist move, particularly through material or military support or the imposition of no-fly zones in the Sudan; and to call upon the Security Council to devise a mechanism to prevent rebel movements from obtaining weapons and to ensure effective monitoring of the ban on the export of weapons to those rebel groups;

3. To express its condemnation of the imposition of United States unilateral economic sanctions on the Sudan and companies cooperating with it in its national investments and to call for constructive political dialogue based on respect for international legitimacy, the sovereignty of States, non-intervention in their internal affairs and the endeavour to achieve common interests;

4. To commend the ongoing efforts of the Government of the Sudan to develop its foreign relations and the good results it has achieved in supporting its relations with fraternal Arab and African States and its neighbours and friendly States;

5. To express appreciation for what has been achieved in the area of Sudanese-European dialogue and the normalization of the Sudan's relations with international finance institutions; and to urge the States of the European Group to support comprehensive peace efforts in the Sudan;

6. To urge Arab States to follow up their efforts, particularly in providing more assistance and support in the fraternal harmony which the Sudan has experienced with these States in this area;

7. To support the efforts made to achieve complete peace in the southern Sudan; and to urge Arab and Islamic non-governmental organizations to intensify their humanitarian and developmental activities and relief efforts in that precious part of the Sudan, through counterpart global organizations and in cooperation with them in all parts of the Sudan;

8. To call upon States and international voluntary organizations to desist from directing unfounded and unjustified random accusations against the Sudan and the Arab States, aimed at internationalizing the Sudanese issue, which constitutes a part of the campaign aimed at distorting the picture of the Arabs and Muslims and insulting the community and their civilization; and to welcome the decision of the United Nations Economic and Social Council to divest the World Christian Solidarity Organization of its consultative status to the Economic and Social Council;

9. To reject the efforts being made by some States to internationalize the question of the Sudan by bringing it before the Security Council and to call upon them to desist from these efforts and to allow an opportunity for regional efforts to bring about peace and reconciliation in the Sudan;

10. To pay a tribute to the efforts of the Government of the Sudan to achieve national reconciliation; to reaffirm its support for the Egyptian-Libyan effort to achieve national reconciliation in the Sudan; to call upon neighbouring States to continue their effort for unity and the achievement of peace and stability in the Sudan; and to support the good offices exercised with a view to furthering the Egyptian-Libyan initiative and the IGAD initiative;

11. To request the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps regarding mechanism for follow up and coordination with concerned parties and organizations,

and primarily the Security Council and the United Nations, concerning the implementation of the resolutions of the League in support of the Sudan in all regional and international fields and submission of the topic to the Council at its next session.

United Nations S/2000/281

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 3 April 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Bahrain to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Arab Group for the month of April 2000, and in the name of the States members of the League of Arab States, I have the honour to transmit herewith resolution No. 5948 dated 11 March 2000, entitled "The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands in the Arabian Gulf belonging to the United Arab Emirates", adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its one hundred and thirteenth regular session, held at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs on 11 and 12 March 2000 at Beirut (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would draw the attention of the members of the Security Council to the present letter and the annexed resolution, and have them circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Jassim Mohammed **Buallay**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the State of Bahrain
to the United Nations
Chairman of the Arab Group

00-37679 (E) 040400 040400

Annex

[Original: Arabic]

The occupation by Iran of the Arab islands in the Arabian Gulf belonging to the United Arab Emirates

The Council of the League of Arab States,

Having considered:

The note by the General Secretariat,

The failure of the Iranian Government to respond to the sincere and serious calls of the Arab Summit, the Council of the League, the Damascus Declaration States, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the United Arab Emirates for a peaceful solution to the dispute,

The Iranian Government's continued occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates and imposition of the status quo by force,

Iran's conduct of military manoeuvres on the three occupied islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, and in their territorial waters and the opening of a municipal hall and an educational complex on Abu Musa,

Decides:

1. To reaffirm all its previous resolutions concerning Iran's occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates in the Arabian Gulf;

2. To reaffirm absolutely the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates over its three islands, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, and to support all peaceful measures and means that it may adopt to regain its sovereignty over its occupied islands;

3. To condemn the Iranian Government's continued occupation of the three islands and violation of the sovereignty of the United Arab Emirates, which disrupts the security and stability of the region and presents a threat to international peace and security;

4. To condemn the Iranian military manoeuvres that have covered the three occupied islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa and their territorial waters; and to call upon Iran to desist from perpetrating such violations and provocative acts that constitute intervention in the internal affairs of an independent sovereign State, do not help to build confidence, present a threat to security and stability in the region and endanger the security and safety of regional and international shipping in the Arabian Gulf;

5. To call upon the Iranian Government once again to put an end to its occupation of the three islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates, to desist from imposing the status quo by force, to halt the erection of any installations there with a view to changing their demographic and civilizational composition, to rescind all measures and remove all installations enacted or installed unilaterally in the three islands, inasmuch as they are inconsonant with the provisions of international law

and the Geneva Convention of 1949 and to pursue peaceful means for resolving the dispute in accordance with the principles and norms of international law, including acceptance of referral of the case to the International Court of Justice;

6. To call upon Iran to translate the desire announced during the term of office of Iranian President Mohammad Khatami to seek improved relations with the Arab States into practical, tangible steps, in word and in deed, in sincere response to the serious and sincere invocations from His Highness Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan an-Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Damascus Declaration States, the Arab States and the Secretary-General of the United Nations calling for a solution of the dispute concerning the three occupied islands belonging to the United Arab Emirates by peaceful means and in accordance with international custom, covenants and norms, through serious direct negotiations or resort to the International Court of Justice, in order to build confidence and strengthen security and stability in the region;

7. To inform the United Nations of the importance of maintaining the issue on the agenda of the Security Council until Iran ends its occupation of the three islands and the United Arab Emirates restores its full sovereignty over them;

8. To request the Secretary-General to follow up this topic and to submit a report to the Council at its next session.

United Nations S/2000/282

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 April 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 4 April 2000 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Afghanistan addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Afghanistan, adopted by the Committee under the no-objection procedure on 4 April 2000. The report is being submitted in accordance with paragraph 10 of Security Council resolution 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999.

(*Signed*) Arnoldo M. **Listre**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999)
concerning Afghanistan

00-37833 (E) 040400

Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Afghanistan

On 15 October 1999 the Security Council adopted resolution 1267 (1999), by which the Council decided to impose the following measures against the Afghan faction known as the Taliban, which also calls itself the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan:

> "*The Security Council*,
>
> ...
>
> 4. *Decides further* that, in order to enforce paragraph 2 above, all States shall:
>
> (a) Deny permission for any aircraft to take off from or land in their territory if it is owned, leased or operated by or on behalf of the Taliban as designated by the Committee established by paragraph 6 below, unless the particular flight has been approved in advance by the Committee on the grounds of humanitarian need, including religious obligation such as the performance of the Hajj;
>
> (b) Freeze funds and other financial resources, including funds derived or generated from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly by the Taliban, or by any undertaking owned or controlled by the Taliban, as designated by the Committee established by paragraph 6 below, and ensure that neither they nor any other funds or financial resources so designated are made available, by their nationals or by any persons within their territory, to or for the benefit of the Taliban or any undertaking owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the Taliban, except as may be authorized by the Committee on a case-by-case basis on the grounds of humanitarian need;"

By paragraph 3 of resolution 1267 (1999), the aforementioned measures came into force on 14 November 1999.

In accordance with paragraph 10 of resolution 1267 (1999), all States are requested to report to the Committee within 30 days of the coming into force of the measures imposed by paragraph 4 of the resolution on the steps they have taken with a view to effectively implementing paragraph 4.

As at 31 March 2000, replies received from 51 States were issued as documents of the Committee, as indicated below:

1.	Saudi Arabia	13 December 1999	S/AC.37/2000/1
2.	Bahrain	23 December 1999	S/AC.37/2000/2
3.	Uzbekistan	27 December 1999	S/AC.37/2000/3
4.	Ukraine	30 December 1999	S/AC.37/2000/4
5.	Monaco	26 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/5
6.	Turkey	27 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/6
7.	Egypt	27 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/7
8.	Greece	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/8
9.	Slovakia	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/9

10.	Pakistan	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/10
11.	Islamic Republic of Iran	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/11
12.	Republic of Moldova	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/12
13.	Australia	31 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/13
14.	Kazakhstan	1 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/14
15.	Hungary	2 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/15
16.	Brazil	3 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/16
17.	Slovenia	3 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/17
18.	Bangladesh	3 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/18
19.	Canada	1 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/19
20.	Brazil	3 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/20
21.	Malta	4 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/21
22.	United States of America	8 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/22
23.	Belgium	9 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/23
24.	Spain	10 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/24
25.	Jamaica	11 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/25
26.	Liechtenstein	11 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/26
27.	Norway	14 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/27
28.	Romania	16 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/28
29.	United Arab Emirates	16 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/29
30.	Lithuania	19 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/30
31.	Republic of Korea	18 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/31
32.	Armenia	22 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/32
33.	Japan	21 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/33
34.	Netherlands	22 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/34
35.	Peru	16 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/35
36.	Sweden	24 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/36
37.	Kyrgyzstan	25 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/37
38.	India	29 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/38
39.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	10 March 2000 2 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/38/Add.1 S/AC.37/2000/39
40.	Italy	2 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/40
41.	Finland	7 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/41
42.	Sudan	22 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/42
43.	Denmark	6 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/43
44.	Thailand	9 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/44
45.	Indonesia	29 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/45
46.	Austria	9 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/46
47.	Georgia	2 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/47
48.	Israel	15 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/48
49.	New Zealand	17 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/49
50.	Belarus	20 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/50
51.	Argentina	24 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/51

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Letter dated 4 April 2000 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Afghanistan addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Afghanistan, adopted by the Committee under the no-objection procedure on 4 April 2000. The report is being submitted in accordance with paragraph 10 of Security Council resolution 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999.

(*Signed*) Arnoldo M. **Listre**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999)
concerning Afghanistan

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Afghanistan

On 15 October 1999 the Security Council adopted resolution 1267 (1999), by which the Council decided to impose the following measures against the Afghan faction known as the Taliban, which also calls itself the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan:

"*The Security Council*,

...

4. *Decides further* that, in order to enforce paragraph 2 above, all States shall:

(a) Deny permission for any aircraft to take off from or land in their territory if it is owned, leased or operated by or on behalf of the Taliban as designated by the Committee established by paragraph 6 below, unless the particular flight has been approved in advance by the Committee on the grounds of humanitarian need, including religious obligation such as the performance of the Hajj;

(b) Freeze funds and other financial resources, including funds derived or generated from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly by the Taliban, or by any undertaking owned or controlled by the Taliban, as designated by the Committee established by paragraph 6 below, and ensure that neither they nor any other funds or financial resources so designated are made available, by their nationals or by any persons within their territory, to or for the benefit of the Taliban or any undertaking owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the Taliban, except as may be authorized by the Committee on a case-by-case basis on the grounds of humanitarian need;"

By paragraph 3 of resolution 1267 (1999), the aforementioned measures came into force on 14 November 1999.

In accordance with paragraph 10 of resolution 1267 (1999), all States are requested to report to the Committee within 30 days of the coming into force of the measures imposed by paragraph 4 of the resolution on the steps they have taken with a view to effectively implementing paragraph 4.

As at 31 March 2000, replies received from 50 States were issued as documents of the Committee, as indicated below:

1.	Saudi Arabia	13 December 1999	S/AC.37/2000/1
2.	Bahrain	23 December 1999	S/AC.37/2000/2
3.	Uzbekistan	27 December 1999	S/AC.37/2000/3*
4.	Ukraine	30 December 1999	S/AC.37/2000/4
5.	Monaco	26 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/5
6.	Turkey	27 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/6
7.	Egypt	27 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/7
8.	Greece	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/8
9.	Slovakia	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/9

10.	Pakistan	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/10
11.	Islamic Republic of Iran	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/11
12.	Republic of Moldova	28 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/12
13.	Australia	31 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/13
14.	Kazakhstan	1 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/14
15.	Hungary	2 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/15
16.	Brazil	3 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/16
17.	Slovenia	3 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/17
18.	Bangladesh	3 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/18
19.	Canada	1 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/19
20.	Malta	4 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/21
21.	United States of America	8 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/22
22.	Belgium	9 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/23
23.	Spain	10 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/24
24.	Jamaica	11 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/25
25.	Liechtenstein	11 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/26
26.	Norway	14 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/27
27.	Romania	16 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/28
28.	United Arab Emirates	16 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/29
29.	Lithuania	19 January 2000	S/AC.37/2000/30
30.	Republic of Korea	18 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/31
31.	Armenia	22 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/32
32.	Japan	21 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/33
33.	Netherlands	22 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/34
34.	Peru	16 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/35
35.	Sweden	24 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/36
36.	Kyrgyzstan	25 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/37
37.	India	29 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/38
38.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/39
39.	Italy	2 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/40
40.	Finland	7 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/41
41.	Sudan	22 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/42
42.	Denmark	6 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/43
43.	Thailand	9 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/44
44.	Indonesia	29 February 2000	S/AC.37/2000/45
45.	Austria	9 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/46
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50.	Argentina	24 March 2000	S/AC.37/2000/51